

Status Of Intelligence Definitions Project As Of 26 Jan 1978

- Some definitional problems fell out of the first Nat/Tac study last summer. DCI wondered whether "departmental intelligence" is real, which led to some rich controversy.
- In September 1977, the NFIB identified the need for an authoritative glossary of intelligence terms.
- In response to this, we have sponsored an interagency working group that has met about weekly since September.
- So far the group has agreed upon candidate definitions for slightly more than 200 terms, leaving perhaps 100 still to be defined.
- The project grows in complexity as progress is made. We've discovered the necessity for some consistency of logic in the development of definitions -- in other words, the need for a rigorous taxonomy -- that has sent us back to the drawing board in a number of cases to redefine terms that we once thought we had defined quite satisfactorily.
- We want ~~our~~^{our} eventual glossary to be as useful as possible, of course, and to achieve that we already see something more than a mere dictionary listing. We want to include:
 - A narrative foreword that will provide footnotes to the definitions exercise and which will explain the thinking of the working group.
 - Graphic presentations, where possible, of families of terms and how they relate to each other, and
 - An accompanying glossary of acronyms and abbreviations.
 - ***Special purpose definitions that have legal status elsewhere.***
- We may be sometime away from actually publishing a glossary, given the realities of coordinating such a document throughout the Community. But we are already reaping some of the potential benefits as we find ourselves consulted on definitional matters by growing numbers of people in our business. The new Executive Order, for example, includes much of our work in the definitions found in its general provisions. *That EO, incidentally, defines a term called Special Activities, which seems to mean clandestine activities, or covert action, or both, and because its newness could cause confusion, underscores the worth of the definitions project, it seems to me.*

I

E.O. Terms not defined in the IC Glossary

- 1 Employee (not needed)
- 2 Intelligence product (essence in Production)
- 3 Physical surveillance (legal application only)
- 4 United States (not needed)
- 5 United States person (not needed)

II

E.O. Terms defined too narrowly for Glossary use

Could
accept

- 1 Communications security - limits to U.S. telecommunications; cannot have global applicability.

Could
accept - leave in

- 2 Counterintelligence - (Foreign counterintelligence in glossary) - limits to simply "protect," where glossary uses "detect, counteract, and/or prevent" to amplify meaning.

- ✓ 3 Foreign intelligence - limits to "information"

- 4 Intelligence - limited in meaning, concept, definition, elements, examples, and intellectual satisfaction

Could
accept

- 5 Internat'l terrorist activities - limited to endangering a US or US State Dept protected.

Could
accept

- ✓ 6 Electronic surveillance - doesn't include systematic monitoring

III

E.O. Terms defined exclusively for legal context

- 1 IC and "agency or agencies w/ the IC" - has no relevance outside E.O.

- ✓ 2 NFIP part (e) - tells what it isn't.

- ✓ 3 Special activities - euphemism coined for the unclas E.O.